

outreach and nonbroadcast activities. The station operates a 24-hour community based telephone prayer line. The station's prayer line is a good, positive point of contact for free, short-term assistance during times of crises for viewers and members of the public. I have personally donated my time to help handle incoming telephone calls on the prayer lines, and I know that those calling in for help not only get someone who is a good listener, but someone who can help refer them to local churches, community and civic organizations which can help the caller with their problems. Indeed, the Center has received dozens of referrals from WHFT's prayer line.

6. The station's prayer line also gives callers an opportunity to reach out and talk with someone who can be a good listener, as well as provide referrals to local agencies, organizations and ministries that may be of help to them and their families. When I have worked on the prayer lines people have called in who are lonely, depressed, involved with criminal activity and looking for a way out, suffering from drug and alcohol abuse and addiction, and confessed that they were abusive spouses or parents, or people who were simply feeling vulnerable and disconnected from society. WHFT's prayer line provides what I believe is a very valuable community service which can talk with people one-on-one, and help them get help with their problems and needs. I know of no other television station providing this kind of community service in the Miami area.

7. WHFT also operates a direct relief and community service program known as "His Hand Extended" ("HHE"). HHE provides relief assistance, food and clothing, to needy individuals and families throughout the Miami area. In fact, some of the people who have come through the Center have reported to me that during the 1987 through February 1992 period, in times of need, WHFT's HHE has provided them with food and clothing. I have also regularly referred people who have called into the Center needing direct assistance and relief to go to HHE at WHFT. It has been a comfort to me, and I believe a great service to the greater welfare of the Miami community, to have a service like HHE. I know of no other television station providing this kind of community service, direct relief and assistance to needy people, other than WHFT. WHFT enjoys an excellent reputation in the Miami community for service, and for responding to community needs and interests.

8. The station also provides unique opportunities to present positive images for minorities. It's "Praise The Lord South Florida" program is particularly noteworthy since many of the guest hosts are minorities, including African-Americans, Hispanics, and women. The program is designed to regularly bring in different guest hosts from the local area, and a large number of these hosts are minorities. This not only provides the positive image of minorities on television, but presents the wide field of activities, community efforts and services minorities and women are providing and involved in throughout the Miami area.

9. I also believe that WHFT's program format is vitally important to Miami since it contains no violence, sex or sexual references, nor does it glorify or in any way glamorize drug and alcohol use. From my work with the Center I know first hand that too many lives have been damaged and destroyed through violence and alcohol and drug abuse and addiction. I believe television stations which broadcast programs containing violence, and which favorably depicts the use of alcohol and drugs, or sexual promiscuity, are extremely bad for the residents of Miami. All too often it has been my experience that people imitate what they see on television. Having a station like WHFT helps counterbalance those kinds of destructive images and examples, and is needed in Miami.

10. WHFT has always been willing to take positive steps to advance the work and exposure of the Center and the ASRTC, as well as other local public service and help groups. The people at the station, particularly Mike Everett, the station manager, have always been very helpful towards me and the organizations I work. We have always been able to count on WHFT, and we hope and expect that we can continue to do so.

SPONSORING DECLARATION

I, Miguel A. Ramirez, hereby declare under penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of Florida and the United States of America that the foregoing "Declaration of Miguel A. Ramirez," consisting of six pages, is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Executed this 2nd day of August, 1993.

By: 
Miguel A. Ramirez

DECLARATION OF GILBERT S. RODRIGUEZ

1. My name is Gilbert S. Rodriguez. I am the pastor of Mercy and Truth Ministries, Inc., which is now without a permanent home because of the damage caused by Hurricane Andrew. I reside at 15604 SW 297th Terrace, Leisure City, Florida, 33033.

2. I have been a resident of the Miami area since January 11, 1990, and am originally from Puerto-Rico. I grew up in New York City, and am bilingual, English and Spanish. I am submitting this Declaration to provide the Federal Communications Commission with my testimony concerning WHFT-TV's contribution to the community welfare made during its last license term (February 1, 1987 to February 1, 1992).

3. Our ministry is a 12 month drug and alcohol therapeutic residential program, primarily servicing persons in the area between South Dade County and Florida City. Our primary service area is predominantly African-American and Hispanic, including a rich mixture of Hispanic nationalities, including Nigaraquans, Mexicans, Colombians as well as Cubans. Our program has a very diverse client base, however, and includes Anglos on occasion. Our residents progress through four levels, and spend roughly three months at each level. We stress community contacts, and focus on helping the family cope with the problems caused by an addicted loved one and support the recovering alcoholic or drug addict. Our program is designed to help people who cannot afford or who do not have access to conventional drug and alcohol rehabilitation treatment. During 1990-1991 our program had 28 beds, and treated

Federal Communications Commission

Docket No. 93-75 Exhibit No. TBF-19

Presented by Emmons

Disposition { Identified 11.29.93
Received 11.29.93
Rejected _____

Reporter A. Williams

Date 11.29.93

an average of 25 residents a month. Though our counseling sessions for effected family members, we also offered counseling to roughly 5,000-6,000 persons per year.

4. I appeared as a guest on the "Praise the Lord--South Florida" program in late 1991. I was interviewed for over 30 minutes about substance abuse, the needs of addicted people in the service area, and the programs in the area to help the addicted. During the program our name and phone number was displayed on the screen. Because of the encouragement of the host and the fact that our number was so prominently displayed, I received a number of calls from people who were addicted and were seeking help. Another couple of calls came from people who were seeking help for their husband or son. Since the program was rebroadcast several times, I received calls from desperate people seeking help each time.

5. I have not been invited to be on any other television station in the Miami area, but there seems to be a real difference in the way that channel 45 responds to a community problem, like drug abuse, compared to other stations. I have seen programs concerning drug abuse on other stations, but none of them have seemed as informative, in terms of emphasizing the agencies and ministries in the community from which to seek help. In fact, most television stations will not mention christian or other religious ministries serving drug addicts in a program about the problem of alcohol or drug abuse. Channel 45 provides information concerning all the resources available in the community from which to seek help.

6. Channel 45 helps the community in other ways as well. No other television station that has a 24 hour prayer line to help people who are in need. I know of two people in particular who have really been blessed because of the channel 24 prayer line. One was a young man who was going through a crisis and was deeply troubled. He was called and was able to have someone pray with him and for him. This person was able to calm him down and encourage him, and helped him get through the crisis. In another instance a young woman who was going through a bad pregnancy and received strength and comfort from people whom she called on the prayer line. Others with drug problems have received strength and consolation from people they have called on the prayer line.

7. Other people who I know watch channel 45 programming have received real consolation and help from the programming on the station. One young man was going through a crisis of faith in himself because of a bad job situation. One evening he was watching a program on channel 45 and there was a person describing his own experience in terms that were exactly like this young man's. The encouragement and hope that he received from that program helped him cope with his own crisis and get through it.

8. I personally know how important this sort of programming can be in someone's life. I was a drug addict for 18 years. I was committed to drug addiction for most of my life. My life was turned around through a belief in God. I received a message of hope and I was brought out of my addiction through prayer and the power of the Lord. This power has brought me out and kept me out

power of the Lord. This power has brought me out and kept me out of the bondage of drugs. Channel 45 offers the same key to other drug addicts.

9. I saw the station during the license term reach out to all elements of the community. A lot of the local programming on channel 45 is grass roots programming that really addresses community needs, and especially minority needs. Paul Crouch, for example, is constantly appearing with members of minority groups on his show, and going to Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean to expand his ministry. If you watch channel 45 you see a real spectrum of racial and ethnic minorities on the programming, both as hosts and as guests on programs. I was invited to appear on the station, and there were other minorities that appeared with me. Minority run ministries that primarily serve the needs of minority communities, like mine and Bobby Rosario's program, "Renacer," are given time on the station and given vital encouragement, publicity, and support.

10. I watch channel 45 in my home. I like the diversity of the programming and I like the fact that much of the preaching by Hispanic ministers on channel 45 is done in English. Although I am bilingual (English-Spanish) I grew up in the U.S. and prefer, as do many Hispanics, english speaking programming.

11. Channel 45 has a very positive image and reputation in the community. I've heard many people say that channel 45 has a real interest in the local community, or that it wants to empower the local community. Other things that I've heard people say about

the station is that it "wants to get the community involved in the decision-making process," and that the station "wants to serve." Other people have told me that the station "gives exposure to the community," and that it "wants to involve the community." All in all the station is well known as an asset to the community.

SUPPORTING DECLARATION

I, Gilbert S. Rodriguez, hereby declare under penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of Florida and the United States of America that the forgoing "Declaration of Gilbert S. Rodriguez," consisting of five (5) pages, is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Executed this 4 day of AUGUST, 1993.

By: 

Gilbert S. Rodriguez

DECLARATION OF JOHN ROPER

1. My name is Sergeant John Roper. I am the Police Coordinator for Crime Stoppers of Dade County, Inc., located at 9105 NW 25th Street, Room 1040, Miami, Florida, 33172. I have resided in the Miami area my entire life, but due to my job, as set forth below, I do not normally give my home address out publicly as a protection to me and my family.

2. Crimestoppers is a nonprofit community based action organization which gives community residents a place to call to report crimes and to provide information on crimes and remain anonymous. We provide rewards for information that leads to the arrest of certain criminals, and depend on publicizing our name and purposes by providing short program segments that are reenactments of the "Crime of the Week" that we hope is broadcast on local television programs. These programs encourage listeners and viewers in the service area to call us with information not only about the crime reenacted, but also crimes that have been committed in the community. While my salary is paid by the department, funding for all the administrative and supports costs of the program, and all funds for rewards, are generated by contributions from the public.

3. In 1991 I was contacted by the station about appearing on "South Florida Public Report." I first appeared on the program during April 1991, I believe, and I appeared with Commander Gary Morton. The segment on the program lasted for about 30 minutes, and gave us an opportunity to describe what the program does and its purposes at some length. Although we are dependent on media

Federal Communications Commission

Docket No. 93-75 Exhibit No. 76F20

Presented by Lawrence J. J. J.

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		Accepted	<u>11.29.93</u>
		Rejected	

Reporter G. W. J. J.

Date 11.24.93

publicity to solicit information from the public, we never get any time on other stations in the Miami area to discuss or describe our program--at most other stations will broadcast the 30 second to one minute reenactment of a crime. On WHFT we received an entire half hour to discuss our program and the community's response to the very difficult issue of crime. Moreover, the name of our program and our telephone number, was continually flashed on the screen during the program.

4. In July, 1991 we were subsequently asked to return to do "Feedback," which was broadcast nationally. Again, we were interviewed by Mr. Harold Quinn, who is a lawyer, about the program, and the program lasted for roughly a half an hour. Both times we appeared on channel 45 I was surprised at the response. We received a lot of calls in response to the shows.

5. The station has a good reputation in the community for broadcasting good public service programming, and broadcasting programming about issues that mean something to people in the community. The station also provides the community with information not only about the problems in the community, but also information about what is being done and what they can do to help solve these problems.

SUPPORTING DECLARATION

I, John Roper, hereby declare under penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of Florida and the United States of America that the forgoing "Declaration of John Roper," consisting of two (2) pages, is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Executed this 3 day of AUGUST, 1993.

By: John R. Roper
John Roper

DECLARATION OF ROBERTO ROSARIO

1. My name is Roberto ("Bobby") Rosario. I am the founder and director of Hogar Renacer, a nonprofit community based organization founded in 1986 to provide training, counseling and rehabilitation services to individuals with criminals records, on probation and transitioning back into society, and to people with drug, alcohol and substance abuse or addiction problems. My business address is 136 N.W. 7th Avenue, Miami, Florida and 2199 Ali Baba Avenue, Opa-Locka, Florida. My residence address is currently 14795 N.E. 18th Avenue, #301, Miami, Florida, but I am moving to 19815 N.W. 34th Avenue, Miami, Florida. I have resided in Miami for the last 17 years. I am submitting this declaration to provide the Federal Communications Commission my testimony concerning the contribution to the community welfare that television station WHFT, channel 45, Miami, Florida made on behalf of Hogar Renacer during the period of February 1987 through February 1992.

2. My primary involvement with WHFT between 1987 and 1992 was through my work with Hogar Renacer. Hogar Renacer provides a rehabilitation and training service to individuals with criminal records, and on probation, as well as to people with drug, alcohol and substance abuse or addition problems. Individuals are referred to Hogar Renacer by Dade County Court Probation Officers, who operate under supervision of the court system, the State of Florida's Health and Rehabilitative Services Agency, community

Federal Communications Commission

Docket No. 93-23 Exemption No. TAF 21

Presented by Emmons / TAF

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Disp. filed 11.29.93

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Reporter A. W. Smith

Date 11.29.93

service groups, such as the Lions Club and Kiwanis, as well as public officials, such as Robert Ingram, the mayor of Opa-Locka, and James Burke, the chief of police for the city of Opa-locka.

3. The training and rehabilitative programs provided by Hogar Renacer involve a live-in situation where individuals are provided with food and shelter for six months or up to one year. During that time they receive basic literacy classes, if necessary, become eligible for GED certifications, and receive vocational training for the construction and maintenance industries generally. There are no fees or charges for Hogar Renacer's training and services. Students are required, however, to pay a one time fee of \$166.00 for books. Those who successfully complete our training program receive direction in working with other community service and ministry organizations, or in further pursuing their education.

4. During the February 1987 through February 1992 time period, I appeared several times as a guest on WHFT's "Praise The Lord South Florida" program and I also appeared as a guest on its public affairs show "Public Report." During these appearances I spoke about the terrible drug, alcohol and substance abuse problems the Miami area has, and how those problems increase crime and violence, the destruction of families, and the sense of togetherness every community must have to flourish. During all of my program appearances my work with Hogar Renacer was promoted, the services and problems we provide and address were discussed and viewers were encouraged to help support Hogar Renacer's work by

contacting our organization for more information, becoming volunteers and providing services and contributions. As a result of my appearance on the station, Hogar Renacer has received many, many communications requesting information about its services and training, and a number of people have volunteered their time and services in helping our organization. I believe that without the support and help we have received from WHFT Hogar Renacer would not be the successful ministry and community service that it is today. No other television station in the Miami area has helped advance our work like WHFT.

5. Between 1987 and February 1992 I was also contacted by WHFT to solicit my input regarding community issues, and to obtain referrals on other community leaders and organizations I could refer to the station to address the needs and issues I believe Miami has, and to promote locally based community service, and church organizations addressing and dealing with those issues. The station did not limit these inquiries to the issues of crime, violence and substance abuse, the areas I am most focussed on, but also sought my input regarding other problems and needs of the community ranging from issues facing the elderly, to the problems facing minorities. I was impressed by WHFT's efforts to determine the local needs and problems by seeking a variety of viewpoints.

6. I wish to also express my opinion that WHFT not only served the public welfare during the 1987 through February 1992 period through its programming efforts, but also through its

community outreach or nonbroadcast activities. These activities include a relief program operated by the station called "His Hand Extended." "His Hand Extended" provides direct relief assistance, food and clothing, to needy individuals and families in the local community. Indeed, "His Hand Extended" has provided donations of food to Hogar Renacer. Also, some of the people who participated in Hogar Renacer's programs have reported to me that in times of need WHFT's "His Hand Extended" had provided them with food and clothing when they had no other place to turn.

7. WHFT enjoys an excellent reputation for community service, and for responding to community problems and needs. For example, in my own family life I will only let my children watch the Saturday morning line-up of programs on WHFT because the station does not permit any programming containing violence, abusive or bad language, or sex or sexual suggestions.

8. WHFT also provides an important community service through its 24-hour community based telephone prayer line. The station's prayer line is a good, positive point of contact for free, short-term assistance during times of crises for viewers and members of the public. I have personally donated my time to help answer the telephone lines, and I know that those calling in for help not only get someone who is a good listener, but someone who can help refer them to local churches, community and civic organizations which can help the caller with his or her problems. In fact, Hogar Renacer has received referrals from WHFT's prayer line.

9. I also know from my work on WHFT's telephone prayer line that many people call with problems of substance abuse, or an abusive family member. The prayer line gives them an opportunity to reach out and talk with someone who can be a good listener, and then to receive referrals to agencies, organizations and ministries that may be able to help them. I know of no other television station providing this kind of community service in the Miami area.

10. The station also provides important, positive images of minorities. Its "Praise The Lord South Florida" program is particularly noteworthy since many of the hosts are minorities, including African-Americans, Hispanics, and Haitians. Because the program is designed to periodically bring in new guest hosts from the local area a large number of minorities participate, and there activities and involvements are also promoted. This not only provides a positive image of minorities on television, but presents a wide field of activities and community efforts minorities are involved in.

11. WHFT has always been willing to take positive steps to advance the work and exposure of Hogar Renacer, as well as similar local groups. The people at the station, particularly Mike Everett, the Station Manager, have always been very helpful to us over the years. We have always been able to count on WHFT, and we hope and expect that we can continue to do so.

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SPONSORING DECLARATION

I, Roberto Rosario, hereby declare under penalty of perjury of the laws of the state of Florida and the United States of America that the foregoing "Declaration of Roberto Rosario," consisting of five pages, is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Executed this 5 day of August, 1993.

By: Roberto Rosario
Roberto Rosario